

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A surface structure of a metallic body containing a metal substrate, the surface structure comprising:
  - 5 a nickel (Ni) layer formed on a surface of the substrate;
  - a barrier layer of one or more elements selected from Group 8A of the periodic table formed on a surface of the nickel (Ni) layer; and
- 10 a gold (Au) layer formed on a surface of the barrier layer.

  

2. The surface structure of a metallic body according to Claim 1,
  - 15 wherein the barrier layer is made of rhodium (Rh).

  

3. The surface structure of a metallic body according to Claim 1,
  - wherein the substrate is made of stainless steel.

  

- 20 4. The surface structure of a metallic body according to Claim 1,
  - wherein the substrate is a cylindrical lens barrel holding an optical element, the nickel layer, the barrier
  - 25 layer and the gold layer are formed on an outer peripheral surface of the lens barrel.

  

5. The surface structure of a metallic body

according to Claim 2,

wherein the substrate is a cylindrical lens barrel holding an optical element, the nickel layer, the barrier layer and the gold layer are formed on an outer 5 peripheral surface of the lens barrel.

6. The surface structure of a metallic body according to Claim 3,

wherein the substrate is a cylindrical lens barrel 10 holding an optical element, the nickel layer, the barrier layer and the gold layer are formed on an outer peripheral surface of the lens barrel.